

*They that can give up
essential liberty to obtain
a little temporary safety
deserve neither
liberty nor safety.*

Benj. Franklin

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

1706-1790



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ROSE FROM HUMBLE

origins to become one of the most celebrated of America's Founding Fathers. A man of boundless curiosity and drive, Franklin became a successful author, printer, and publisher, best known for the homespun wisdom of his *Poor Richard's Almanack*. Drawn to science, Franklin gave us the lightning rod and bifocal eyeglasses. An advocate of civic improvement in his adopted home city of Philadelphia, he helped found a library, a volunteer fire company, an academy (later the University of Pennsylvania), and a hospital. As a statesman, Franklin helped found both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S.-French wartime alliance that secured American independence, and negotiated a peace to abolish slavery. Since Franklin helped prove the connection between electricity and lightning, *Poor Richard's Almanack*, a collection of *Electric Franklin*, painted by David Martin, c. 1770. To learn more about Benjamin Franklin or the





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